



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:

Astrid VRANG *et al.*

Serial No.: 09/982,531

Filed: October 19, 2001

)  
)  
)  
)  
)  
)

Examiner: To Be Assigned

Group Art Unit: 1636

TECH CENTER 1600/2900

MAY 16 2002

RECEIVED

For: IMPROVED FERMENTATION METHOD FOR PRODUCTION OF  
HETEROLOGOUS GENE PRODUCTS IN LACTIC ACID BACTERIA

Honorable Under Secretary of Commerce for Intellectual Property and Director of the United  
States Patent and Trademark Office  
Washington, D.C. 20231

#8B  
Zila  
5/20/02

**Preliminary Amendment Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.115**

Sir,

Please consider the following:

**Remarks**

Claims 1-24 are currently pending.

**Amendments**

**Claims**

Please cancel claims 20-23 without prejudice, and replace therewith new claims 25-29.

Please amend claims 17 and 24 as follows:

B<sup>1</sup> 17. (amended) A method according to any of claims 1-4 or 9-11 wherein the yield of heterologous peptide, polypeptide or protein is at least 5 mg/L.

B<sup>2</sup> 24. (amended) A method according to claim 12 wherein the chemically defined medium is the medium comprising:

Component	Concentration, mM or +/-
L-Alanine	3.4
L-Arginine	1.1
L-Asparagine	0.8